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April 3, 2000

Dear Medical Provider:

The U.S. EPA is currently sampling the soil of several thousand properties in the Clayton, Swansea, Cole, Elyria, West Globeville and Five Points neighborhoods. Preliminary results show that some properties have elevated lead levels in the soil. These neighborhoods also have a high percentage old housing built before 1950. The parent giving you this letter resides in one of these neighborhoods..

Lead poisoning can affect young children between the ages of 6 months to 6 years. It is very important that any child under the age of six that resides with this parent, be tested for lead poisoning.

Current Medicaid policy, updated in 1999, requires that all Medicaid enrolled children receive a blood lead test at 12 and 24 moths of age. All Medicaid enrolled children between 36 and 72 months of age, who have not previously been tested, must also receive a blood lead test. If this parent's child is enrolled in Medicaid, please order a blood lead test.

The State of Colorado's current lead screening guidelines for non-Medicaid eligible children is as follows:

- If the parent or contractor is remodeling an older house (built before 1950)
- A newly adopted child from another country
- A child who recently traveled to or arrived from a 3rd world country
- If a child plays in or eats dirt (bare soil)
- If the family uses a bean pot acquired in Mexico
- If a parent is has a hobby or occupation that is related to lead, like stain glass work or car battery repair.

If you have any questions concerning this notification, please contact the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 303-692-2685.

Sincerely,

Richard Hoffman, MD, MPH Chief Medical Officer Terry Tiller Taylor, Program Manager Environmental Health Programs Disease Control & Environmental Epidemiology